

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 210639

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 COME-00 PM-04 DODE-00 NSF-02

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AF/E - R. CASTRO-DALE

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R 250133Z AUG 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

UNCLAS STATE 210639

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:TGEN, MA

SUBJECT: DEEPSEA EXPLORER

REF: TANANARIVE 1350

1. DEEPSEA EXPLORER, ALIAS MIDNIGHT COAST, IS A PRIVATE, AMERICAN FLAG VESSEL OPERATED BY PETTY-RAY GEOPHYSICAL INC., HOUSTON, TEXAS UNDER LEASE FROM GUZZETTA MARINE SERVICES. IT IS CONDUCTING SEISMIC RESEARCH FOR PHILLIPS PETROLEUM, PRESENTLY OFF KENYA FOLLOWED BY WORK OFF SOMALIA. THE SHIP DOES NOT PLAN TO RETURN TO DIEGO SUAREZ. A PORT CALL WAS MADE AT MOMBASA AFTER ITS DEPARTURE FROM DIEGO SUAREZ.

2. DEEPSEA EXPLORER IS A CONVERTED OFFSHORE SUPPLY VESSEL WITH THE FOLLOWING CHARACTERISTICS: LENGTH 176 FEET, BEAM 38 FEET, DISPLAC. TONNAGE 198, DRAFT 13 FEET, AND A CRUISING SPEED OF 12 KTS.

3. PRIVATE VESSELS SUCH AS THE DEEPSEA EXPLORER USUALLY MAKE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS FOR PORT CALLS BY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 STATE 210639

NOTIFYING THE PORT AUTHORITIES OR SHIP'S AGENT SHORTLY

BEFORE THEIR ARRIVAL. OCCASIONALLY, AN EMBASSY WILL

BE ASKED TO ASSIST A VESSEL IN MAKING PORT CALL
ARRANGEMENTS IF SPECIAL CONDITIONS EXIST, SUCH AS A
PORT CALL IN CONJUNCTION WITH A DIPLOMATIC RESEARCH
CLEARANCE REQUEST WITHIN THAT PARTICULAR COUNTRY.
PUBLIC VESSELS (THOSE OPERATED BY THE NAVY OR GOVERN-
MENT AGENCIES) ARE REQUIRED TO USE DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS
FOR BOTH PORT CALLS AND RESEARCH CLEARANCE REQUESTS.

4. DEPARTMENT HAS NO FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING
SHIP OR ITS ACTIVITIES BUT WILL MAKE FURTHER IN-
QUIRIES IF REQUESTED. KISSINGER

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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